



# MINUTES

## International Relations Committee of the Legislative Council

September 18, 2000

---

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Nancy Boettger,  
Chairperson  
Senator Gene Fraise  
Senator Steve King  
Senator Sheldon Rittmer  
Senator Elaine Szymoniak

Representative Willard Jenkins,  
Vice Chairperson  
Representative Minnette Doderer  
Representative Jack Drake  
Representative Jane Greimann  
Representative Scott Raecker

## MEETING IN BRIEF

.....

Organizational staffing  
provided by: Patty Funaro,  
Senior Legal Counsel  
(515) 281-3040

Minutes prepared by: Tim  
McDermott, Legal Counsel  
(515) 281-3444

- I. Procedural Business.
  - II. International Relations Groups.
  - III. Republic of China Letter.
  - IV. Great Seal of Iowa.
  - V. Forms and Questionnaire.
  - VI. Committee Charge.
  - VII. Executive Protocol Officer.
  - VIII. Legislative Protocol Officer.
  - IX. Future Meetings.
  - X. Written Materials Filed with the Legislative Service Bureau.
-

## **International Relations Committee of the Legislative Council**

---

### **I. Procedural Business.**

Chairperson Nancy Boettger called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. in Committee Room 24 of the State House. The Committee recessed for lunch at noon, reconvened at 12:30 p.m., and adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

### **II. International Relations Groups.**

The Committee received testimony from parties interested in international relations. Mr. Phil Latessa, Interim Executive Director, and Ms. Eleanor Verwers, Vice President, Iowa Sister States provided information regarding the Sister States Program and current activities with the Ukraine. Ms. Jeanne Caderert, Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities, described the activities of her organization. Mr. Latessa, Ms. Caderet, and Ms. Kathy Hill, Department of Economic Development, discussed how each of their programs, while having their own unique programming, do at times overlap and work together.

### **III. Republic of China Letter.**

Representative Doderer moved that a congratulatory letter be sent to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago that is sponsoring a celebration of the 89<sup>th</sup> National Day of the Republic of China in October. The motion passed.

### **IV. Great Seal of Iowa.**

Ms. Diane Bolender, Director, Legislative Service Bureau, provided the Committee with a summary of her telephone discussion with Mr. Brian Gentry, Legal Counsel, Governor's Office, regarding the use of a depiction of the Great Seal of Iowa on gifts provided through the General Assembly. Mr. Gentry suggested during the telephone conversation that the Governor's Office could store any gifts approved by the Governor's Office that use a depiction of the Great Seal of Iowa and then the Governor's Office would release the gifts for presentation to international visitors upon request of members of the General Assembly.

After Ms. Bolender made her comments, Mr. Gentry appeared before the Committee and suggested that the General Assembly could store and distribute approved gifts using a depiction of the Great Seal of Iowa, if the Governor's Office could have access to the gifts for presentation and if the General Assembly provided an accounting to the Governor's Office regarding the recipients of the approved gifts. Mr. Gentry recommended that the General Assembly develop a protocol for use of the Great Seal of Iowa and submit the protocol to the Governor's Office.

Representative Raecker moved that a protocol regarding the use of a depiction of the Great Seal of Iowa on gifts should be developed by the Committee, submitted to Governor's Office, and implemented. The motion passed.

### **V. Forms and Questionnaire.**

The Committee reviewed a questionnaire regarding interest in international affairs for legislators, a form for legislators to order gifts for international visitors, and a form for introductions of international relations visitors to the General Assembly. The Committee

---

## **International Relations Committee of the Legislative Council**

---

suggested changes to each form. The Committee agreed that the forms should be revised in accordance with the changes suggested by the Committee, distributed to members of the General Assembly, and incorporated in the orientation activities for new legislators.

### **VI. Committee Charge.**

The Committee reviewed the charge of the Committee and decided to continue to consider whether any changes needed to be made to the charge at a future meeting.

### **VII. Executive Protocol Officer.**

Ms. Valentina Slater-Fominykh was introduced as the Executive Branch Protocol Officer. Ms. Slater-Fominykh and Ms. Molly Culbertson, Governor's Office, discussed their intentions to convene the International Relations Advisory Council for the first time in early November.

### **VIII. Legislative Protocol Officer.**

The Committee discussed the issue of hiring a Legislative Protocol Officer. The Committee discussed the possibility of removing the Legislative Information Office from the Legislative Service Bureau and making the Legislative Information Office a separate entity that would report directly to the Legislative Council.

Ms. Julie Livers, Director, Legislative Information Office, provided the Committee with a staffing proposal that assumed the Legislative Protocol Officer would be employed as the Director of the Legislative Information Office. The proposal requested one additional FTE position for tour guide capacity, one additional FTE position for tour guide desk staffing, one additional FTE position for a Legislative Information Officer, and one additional FTE position for clerical and office support in the Legislative Information Office. Representative Drake moved that Ms. Livers' proposal be forwarded to leadership of the General Assembly for further consideration. The motion passed.

### **IX. Future Meetings.**

Chairperson Boettger stated that the next Committee meeting would likely be scheduled when the Legislative Council meets prior to the start of the next legislative session.

### **X. Written Materials Filed with the Legislative Service Bureau.**

#### **A. Ms. Caderet filed the following:**

- A pamphlet titled "Building International Bridges."
- A pamphlet titled "Would You Like to Consult with Colleagues from Another Country?"
- A document titled "Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities."

#### **B. Mr. Latessa filed the following:**

- A document titled "Iowa Sister States: The Bridge between Global Friendship and Economic Development."
- A document titled "Correspondent."

## **International Relations Committee of the Legislative Council**

---

- A document titled "ISS in-Kind Donations FY 2000."
- A document titled "Economic Impacts Associated with the Iowa Sister State Program."

**C.** Ms. Livers filed the following:

- A document titled "Proposed Increase in Staffing for LIO/Capitol Tour Guides."
- A document titled "Current W-2 Salary Information for FY '99."

3374LC